

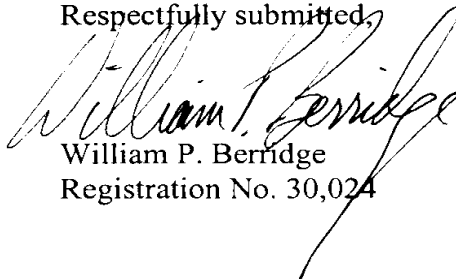
Claim 16, lines 1-2, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --Claim 1--.

Claim 18, lines 1-2, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --Claim 1--.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. This Preliminary Amendment eliminates multiple dependent claims. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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